

Message Text

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17

ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-04 ISO-00 ARA-06 EA-06 EUR-12 NEA-06 RSC-01

CIAE-00 CU-02 INR-05 NSAE-00 USIA-06 AGR-05 AID-05

EB-07 COME-00 TRSE-00 SWF-01 L-02 OMB-01 ABF-01 OIC-02

/083 W

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R 191010Z NOV 74

FM AMEMBASSY COTONOU

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6718

INFO USMISSION USUN

C O N F I D E N T I A L COTONOU 1777

EO 11652 GDS

TAGS: APER, AORG, UN, DM

SUBJ: US OPPOSES UN PAY INCREASE

REF A. STATE 249415 B. STATE 250209

1. PURSUANT REF A INSTRUCTIONS CHARGE ON 18 NOV TOOK UP QUESTION OF UN PAY INCREASE AND LEFT REF B AIDE-MEMOIRE WITH CYRIL SAGBO, SEC GEN MRGD MIN OF FORN AFFAIRS. SAGBO DECLINED COMMENT ON MRGD'S POSITION NOTING ONLY THAT A FINAL DECISION HAD NOT YET BEEN MADE. HE EXPRESSED THANKS FOR STATEMENT OF US POSITION WHICH WOULD BE TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT BY HIS MINISTRY IN THE DECISION-MAKING PROCESS.

2. ON PERSONAL BASIS SAGBO REJECTED IDEA OF COMPARING US SALARIES WITH THOSE OF CIVIL SERVANTS OF MEMBER STATES. IF THAT COMPARISON WERE VALID HE ASSERTED, THEN SALARIES OF US DIPLOMATS IN DAHOMEY SHOULD BE LOWERED TO THOSE OF DAHOMEAN CIVIL SERVICE.

3. COMMENT: WE DOUBT THAT MANY OF SAGBO'S COLLEAGUES WOULD SHARE HIS BIZARRE VIEW. GOVERNMENT'S CURRENT BUDGETARY DIFFICULTIES AND MODEST LEVEL OF LOCAL SALARIES WOULD SUGGEST
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LIKELIHOOD THAT DAHOMEY WOULD SHARE US ATTITUDE IN SHOWDOWN.

SAGBO'S UNWILLINGNESS TO DIVULGE MRGD THINKING ON THIS SUBJECT PROBABLY REFLECTS RECENTLY ACQUIRED HABIT OF DAHOMEAN CIVIL SERVANTS, WHO ARE UNDER SHARP ATTACK BY COUNTRY'S CURRENT (MILITARY) LEADERSHIP, NOT TO DISCUSS ISSUES WITHOUT SPECIFIC INSTRUCTIONS FROM THEIR MINISTERS. OF COURSE, MRGD MAY NOT EVEN MAKE AN EXPRESS DECISION IN THIS MATTER, BUT LEAVE IT TO ITS AMB TO UN (ABJIBADE). WE SUGGEST USUN DEMARCHE ON HIM.
ENGLE

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Authority: CollinP0
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Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
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From: COTONOU
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ISecure: 1
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30 JUN 2005

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